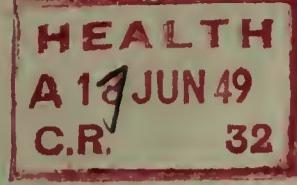


LIBRARY



Council Offices,
STURMINSTER NEWTON,
Dorset.

1st June, 1949.

To the Chairman and Members,
Sherborne Rural District Council.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1948.

The report is prepared and will be circulated in accordance with the requirements of Article 17(5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations 1935.

The year under review can be considered to have been satisfactory from a public health point of view. There was no serious incidence of infectious disease, steady progress was made with regard to your new housing programme, and progress was made with the necessary preliminary work with regard to the provision of an improved water supply to the whole district and local sewerage schemes in the principal parishes.

I am indebted to Mr. Shepherd, your Sanitary Inspector, for his co-operation and help during the year, and for his assistance in preparing this report, particularly in respect to the sanitary statistics for which he is responsible. I am also indebted to my clerk, Miss L. Davidge, for her efficient services during the year.

I would also like to thank you, Madam and Gentlemen, for your courtesy and consideration throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

W. J. Peacock

Medical Officer of Health.

SHERBORNE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR

1948.

A. Area - 41,481 acres.
Rateable Value - £24,494
Production of a penny rate - £105. 2. 1. 454d.

Vital Statistics.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate) - 6,522

LIVE BIRTHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	Comparative figures for (a) North Dorset. (b) England & Wales.
Total 138)	70	68 } Rate per 1,000	
Legitimate	66	65 } resident pop:	
Illegitimate	4	5 } = 21.1	17.7
			17.9

STILLBIRTHS.

Total (3)	2	1	Rate per 1,000
			resident pop:
		= 0.4	0.4
			0.42

DEATHS

Total (67)	33	34	Rate per 1,000
			resident pop:
		= 10.2	11.5
			10.8

Deaths in
infants under
1 year (7) 2 5 Infantile death
rate per 1,000
live births =
50.0 24.6 34.0

Deaths from Maternal Causes - 1
" diarrhoea in infants - Nil
" road traffic accidents - 1
" other violent causes - 3

B. Personal Health Services in the district.

The National Health Service Act came into operation in July when the provision of hospital and specialist medical services became the responsibility of the Ministry of Health and the private medical practitioner service became the responsibility of the Local Executive Councils.

The County Council as local health authority under the Act became responsible for ambulance arrangements in the district, and for home nursing facilities. The domiciliary midwifery, child welfare and the school medical services remained the responsibility of the Dorset County Council as local health authority.

The laboratory services and the tuberculosis and venereal disease services previously provided by the Dorset County Council became the responsibility of the Ministry of Health through their hospital service.

The change over of functions and responsibilities in so far as the district is concerned appears to have taken place smoothly and without dislocation.

No complaints have been made to me suggesting that patients have not, under the Act, received any necessary medical treatment available to them before the Act became operative, and my general impression is that the Act has proved beneficial to the community.

C. Environmental Health Services.

Sanitary Circumstances of the district -

1. SANITARY STAFF.

H. Shepherd, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. Chief Sanitary Inspector, Building Surveyor & Water Engineer (Engaged part time on Sanitary Duties).

R.L. Symes, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. Additional Sanitary Inspector (Engaged full time on Sanitary Duties) Commenced duties on 16.2.48.

Clerical Staff -

One clerk and one junior clerk.

2. WATER SUPPLY.

During the year under review serious shortages of water were again experienced which were in part due to the diminution in the yield of the springs and in part due to serious leakages on some of the principal mains caused by Oxford clay action.

So serious were the shortages when consumption was at its peak level that supplies condemned as unfit for consumption had to be used. Fortunately the summer was not excessively hot and sunny for a prolonged period, or the position would have been extremely serious. It is essential that the Southern Parishes supply should be augmented before the coming summer and to this end the Council has formulated its proposal to augment the supply from the Sherborne U.D.C. supply to Haydon Park Camp. In my report for last year I recorded that the Council had agreed to taking a supply from the Wincanton R.D.C. to augment the Oborne supply. I have now to record that the Wincanton R.D.C. have withdrawn their offer to provide such a supply and the Council are considering other means to provide an additional supply to that parish.

New Connections.

The following new connections to the Council's mains were made during the year :-

(i) domestic use.....	54
{ii) agricultural purposes.....	7
{iii) other purposes.....	Nil

Details of domestic supply. The following table shows details of domestic supply parish by parish and the populations served:-

	Houses with Public Water Supply.	Houses with Standpipes Outside	Houses with Supply direct to the house.	Population Supplied (Estimated)
Batcombe (part)	3	-	3	7
Beerhackett (part)	7	-	7	23
Castleton (part)	5	-	5	15
Caundle Bishop	78	24	54	223
Caundle Marsh	21	5	16	84
Caundle Purse	38	6	32	133
Chetnole	58	9	49	210
Clifton Maybank (part)	7	-	7	21
Folke	65	24	41	221
Goathill	8	4	4	26
Haydon	19	3	16	64
Hermitage	11	5	6	25
Hilfield	11	-	11	40
Holnest	25	-	25	69
Holwell	87	5	82	323
Leigh	97	15	82	340
Lillington (Part)	4	-	4	12
Longburton	80	8	72	244
Total c/fwd.	624	108	516	2080

	Houses with Public Water Supply.	Houses with Standpipes Outside.	Houses with Supply direct to the house.	Population Supplied. (Estimated)
B/fwd.	624	108	516	2080
Melbury Bubb (part)	5	--	5	17
North Wootton	8	2	6	26
Ryme Intrinsica	34	7	27	119
Sandford Orcas	48	4	44	174
Stockwood (part)	6	-	6	24
Trent (part)	28	2	26	92
Yetminster	171	3	168	591
Total -	924	126	798	3123

Examination of water supplies.

<u>Public</u> (owned by the Council).	<u>Bacteriological.</u>	<u>Chemical.</u>
---------------------------------------	-------------------------	------------------

Leigh	17	-
Holwell & Bishops Caundle	1	-
Southern Parishes	28	-
Bradford Abbas (Council Houses)	8	-
Poyntington (Council Houses)	2	-
Trent & Sandford Orcas	36	-
Northern Parishes (Bedmill)	1	-
Tuthill Borehole	1	1

Private.

Bradford Abbas	7	-
Castleton	1	-
Caundle Bishop	1	-
Caundle Marsh	4	-
Chetnole	1	-
Leweston	10	-
Lillington	6	-
Nether Compton	14	-
Oborne	13	-
Over Compton	5	-
Poyntington	2	-
Sandford Orcas	1	-
Stockwood	1	-
Thornford	9	-
Trent	12	-
	181	1

The present water supplies in the rural district are many and varied, some under the control of the Council, some from private sources. The quality of the supplies are equally variable and on the whole are not entirely satisfactory. Considerable amount of maintenance and supervision of the various supplies under the control of the Council is called for. When the comprehensive scheme, based on the new Thornford borehole, can come into operation not only will a sufficient supply of water be available for all purposes in the district, but the supply to the district will come from one source of pure water the quality of which will be able to be supervised with much more ease and efficiency than is called for by the many sources at present in use.

3. DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

New works carried out during the year -

Alweston. Part of the permanent sewerage scheme for Alweston has been completed.

Thornford. Part of the permanent sewerage scheme for Thornford has been completed, in connection with the drainage of the new housing estate. Ditches containing sewage were cleaned out during the year.

Yetminster. Sewage Works have been constructed at Eastlands, Yetminster for 16 new Council houses built there.

Bishops Caundle. New Sewage Works have been constructed for the old and new Council houses provided there. Ditches containing sewage were cleaned out during the year.

Sandford Orcas. A small Sewage Works has been provided to deal with the sewage from the 5 Council houses constructed there.

Bradford Abbas, Folke, Purse Caundle & Chetnole. Ditches containing sewage have been cleaned out in these parishes during the year.

4. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

(a) The Council continued to carry out a monthly collection of all house refuse throughout the district.

(b) A monthly collection of salvage was also carried out except in the parishes of Yetminster, Ryme Intrinsica and Beerhackett where collection is carried out twice monthly. During the year salvage amounting to £286 in value was collected and disposed of.

(c) Cesspool Emptying. All cesspools of Council houses are emptied at regular intervals by the Council. Private cesspools are emptied by the Council by arrangement.

5. RIVERS & STREAMS POLLUTION.

River Yeo, Goathill. Complaints alleging intermittent pollution of this river at Goathill from the effluent of the Sewage Works, Milborne Port, were received during the year.

6. SHOPS ACT.

No. of shops in district.....	20
No. of defects found.....	2
No. of inspections carried out.....	31
No. of notices served.....	1
No. of notices complied with.....	-

7. FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

	<u>No. on register.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Written Notices.</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	3	11	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12	12	-
Total -	15	23	-

Total number of outworkers - 56.

8. SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action was called for in this connection.

9. SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no public swimming baths in the district.

10. CAMPING SITES.

No. of licensed camping sites in the district.....	2
No. of moveable dwellings licensed.....	3
No. of inspections made.....	8

11. VERMINOUS PREMISES.

3 premises found to be infested were disinfested during the year.

12. RATS & MICE.

Rodent Control in the district is carried out under arrangement made by the North Dorset Joint Rodent Committee.

13. RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 - 1922.

No action was called for or taken during the year.

14. SCHOOLS SANITATION.

Bishops Caundle School. A new drainage system with septic tank and water closets was provided at this school.

Thornford School. Drainage arrangements at this school were improved.

Trent School. The drainage from this school was improved during the year, sewage works being provided in place of the existing cesspool.

Chetnole & Leigh Schools. Improved drainage arrangements were provided to these schools during the year.

15. HOUSING.

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year -

(1) Total No. of dwelling houses inspected during	
(a) the year for housing defects (under P.H. or Housing Acts)....	433
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose.....	502
(2) (1) No. of Informal notices served.....	12
(2) No. of Informal notices complied with.....	5
(3) No. of Statutory notices served.....	1
(4) No. of Statutory notices complied with.....	-
(3) (1) No. of houses 'reported' under Section 11 of the Housing Act 1936.....	6
(2) Action taken by Local Authority in respect to such houses -	
(a) Demolition Orders made.....Nil	
(b) Undertaking accepted for -	
(i) closure.....Nil	
(ii) re-conditioning.....Nil	
(4) Overcrowding.	
(1) No. of cases of 'statutory overcrowding' found and reported to Local Authority.....	2
(2) No. of cases of overcrowding abated.....	3
(3) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.....Nil	

Total number of working class houses in the district.....1680

Rural Housing Survey.

Classification.	No. of inspections.		No. of inspections	
	during 1948		before 1948	
	Prelim.	Detailed.	Prelim.	Detailed.
Cat. 1. Satisfactory	121	-	110	-
Cat. 2. Requiring minor repairs	67	-	119	-

Rural Housing Survey (contd)

<u>Classification.</u>	<u>No. of inspections</u>		<u>No. of inspections</u>	
	<u>during 1948</u>	<u>Prelim.</u>	<u>Detailed.</u>	<u>before 1948</u>
Cat. 3. Requiring minor repair, alteration or improvement	80	-	-	167 2
Cat. 4. Appropriate for re-conditioning	66	26	-	4 4
Cat. 5. Unfit beyond human habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost	77	3	-	9 -

No. of new houses and re-housing.

	<u>Temporary</u>	<u>Swedish</u>	<u>Traditional</u>	<u>Other.</u>
	<u>Prefab.</u>	<u>Timber.</u>	<u>Type.</u>	
(a) During 1948	-	-	66	-
(b) Post-war	-	-	74	-

No. of houses held under requisition at the end of the year.....	16
No. of houses on which Demolition or Closing Orders had been made, occupied under licence at the end of the year.....	4
Total number of families re-housed during the year by the Local Authority.....	81

From the above figures it will be seen that the Council has made appreciable progress in connection with the provision of new Council houses by the completion of 66 new houses during the year under review. It is hoped that full advantage will be taken of the provision to be made in the new Housing Act for the re-conditioning of sub-standard property so that the general housing standards in the district will be raised to a satisfactory level which is so essential if the agricultural labour is to be retained and attracted to the district.

16. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

1. Milk -

(a) Milk & Dairies Order 1926.

No. of farms in the district registered for milk production.....	276
No. of farms producing designated milk -	
(a) T.T.....	31
(b) Accredited.....	56
No. of farms producing non-designated milk.....	189
No. registered dairymen (cowkeepers and milk sellers)....	279
No. registered wholesale.....	191
" " retailers.....	44
" " wholesale and retailers.....	41

(b) Cowsheds and Milk Shops.

No. of inspections made during the year.....	42
No. of cases in which contravention of the regulations were found.....	12
No. of prosecutions undertaken.....	Nil

(c) Milk (Special Designation) Order 1936 - 1941.

No. of licences granted during the year -

Tuberculin Tested -	Dealers.....	Nil
	Supplementary.....	2

Pasteurised -	Dealers.....	Nil
	Supplementary.....	3

(d) Samples.

No. of samples taken and submitted for examination during the year -

Tuberculin Tested.....	Nil
Accredited.....	Nil
Pasteurised.....	Nil
Undesignated.....	1

2. Other Food Premises.

No. of premises in the district subject to Section 13 of the Food & Drugs Act 1938.....	40
No. of such premises inspected during the year.....	40
No. of premises in the district subject to registration under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act 1938.....	3
No. of such premises registered in respect to -	

{a} Ice cream.....	2
{b} Sausages & prepared meats....	1

No. of such premises inspected during the year.....	3
No. of samples of ice cream taken and submitted for Methylene Blue test.....	2

Result:-

	<u>No.</u>
Grade 1	-
Grade 2	-
Grade 3	2
Grade 4	-

Meat Inspection.

(a) Slaughterhouses. There are no slaughterhouses in use in the district.

(b) Butchers and other shops. No meat was inspected or condemned during the year.

Other food.

Quantities condemned -

48 jars Piccalilli
16 lbs. bacon
1 tin meat loaf
22 lbs. sugar.

17. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

No. of investigations carried out.....	3
No. of disinfections carried out.....	-

18. SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT.

Total No. of inspections (under all headings).....	890
" " Informal notices served.....	25
" " Informal notices complied with.....	7
" " Statutory notices served.....	1
" " Statutory notices complied with.....	1
No. of prosecutions.....	-

D. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

Incidence -

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified.</u>	<u>Cases Admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Measles	41	-	-
Erysipelas	2	-	-
Whooping cough	25	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-
Lobar, Acute & Influenzal Pneumonia	8	-	-
Malaria (B.T.) (contracted abroad)	3	-	-
Scarlet fever	1	-	-

Tuberculosis.

<u>New Cases notified.</u>		<u>Deaths</u>	
<u>Respiratory.</u>	<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>	<u>Respiratory.</u>	<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>
4	1	2	-

NOEL F. PEARSON
Medical Officer of Health.